

Executive Summary

This report documents the public scoping process of the Price Field Office Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement process. The report includes a description of the scoping process, and an overview of the planning schedule. A description of each of the six scoping meetings and the subjects considered follows, along with an overview of the issues identified through written comments submitted by mail, email and fax.

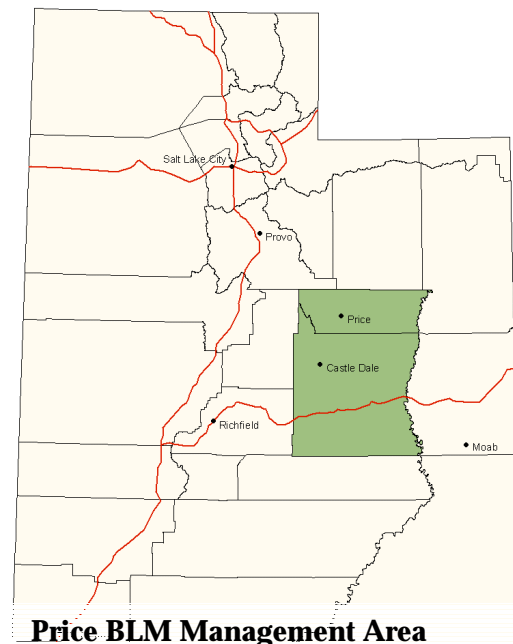
The purpose of the scoping process is to identify management issues important to the resource area. These issues will serve as a guide in the development of the Resource Management Plan.

In this Scoping Process, the Bureau of Land Management approach has been one of collaboration and open dialogue. The agency has extended efforts beyond minimum requirements. For example, the agency is required to extend scoping for 30 days, but in this case, the scoping period extended 100 days. Six meetings were held in key regional locations in and around the resource area as well as the State Capitol. Comments were accepted in a variety of methods to ensure outreach to those who wanted to participate. This process is an excellent method to educate the general public about the management of the public lands, and for the agency to gauge the concerns of those who have a stake in the resources of the area.

This report is intended to reflect in a qualitative way the issues identified through the scoping process. It includes the concepts discussed at the public scoping meetings, letters from individuals and organizations, coordination with city and county officials, in addition to collaborative input from public land and resource management agencies (Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife, Utah Div. of Wildlife Resources, Div. of Oil, Gas & Mines, State Parks, etc...) Following this process, will ensure a balanced and pragmatic approach as the Resource Management Plan is developed for the Price Field Office.

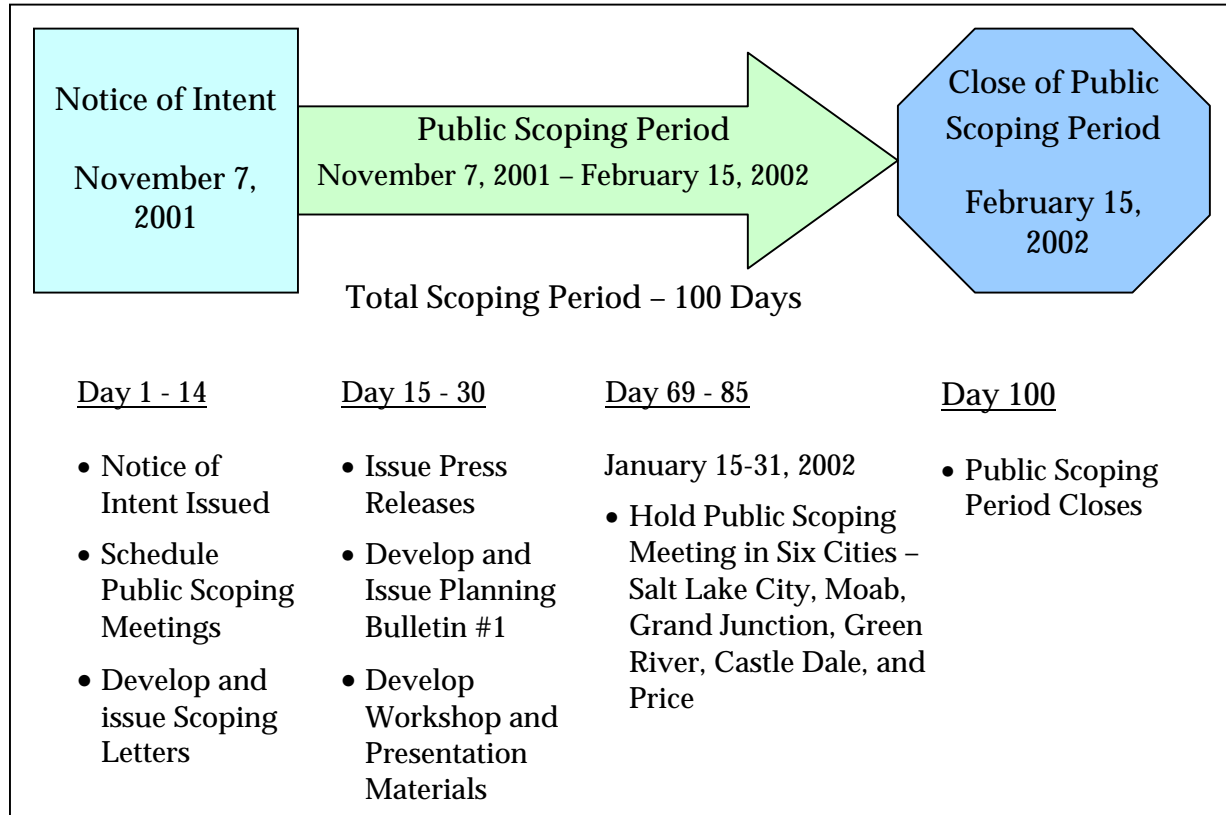
Plan Overview

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Price Field Office, has initiated the process to develop a land and resource management plan (RMP) for approximately 2,500,000 acres of surface estate lands and 2,800,000 acres of mineral estate land in central Utah. This plan, known as the Price Resource Management Plan, will combine the existing Price River Management Framework Plan (MFP) and San Rafael RMP's into a single plan. As part of this project, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will also be prepared.



Public Scoping And Issue Identification

Upon publication of the Notice of Intent to begin the planning process in the Federal Register, the BLM Price Field Office initiated a public scoping process. This process included six public scoping meetings. The initial public scoping period extended from November 7, 2001 through February 15, 2002, a total of 100 days.



Public Scoping Process Timeline

Through the six meetings, 270 people registered their attendance. The meeting format allowed each person attending to share his or her issues and concerns for the BLM Price management area. Additional comments were received through letter, email and fax. Approximately 1,100 unique comments from nearly 600 letters/faxes/emails and approximately 9,800 form letters were received. Comments were compiled according to topic, with comments falling into roughly 11 topic areas. These include:

- Transportation Access
- Local Economic Impact
- Administrative Issues
- Range-Land Health
- Special Land Designations (Wilderness Study Areas)
- Recreation/OHV
- Air & Water Quality
- Livestock Grazing
- Mineral Development
- Cultural/Historic Resources
- Wildlife/Hunting Forestry